

**RANTOUL VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR STUDY SESSION
December 7, 2021**

LOUIS B. SCHELLING MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
RANTOUL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 333 S. TANNER, RANTOUL, IL

A Regular Study Session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rantoul was held at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Smith called the proceeding to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call

The Clerk called the roll, finding the following members present:

Mayor Smith, and Trustees Crider, Wilkerson, Hall, Robertson, Weathersby and Johnson – 7

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Scott Eisenhauer, Administrator; Jolene Gensler, Comptroller; Debbie Sage, Human Relations; Chris Milliken, Urban Planning Manager; Luke Humphrey, Recreation Director; Jake McCoy, Assistant Public Works Director; David Wesner, Attorney and Janet Gray, Village Clerk

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Crider moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. On a roll call vote:

AYE: Crider, Wilkerson, Hall, Robertson, Weathersby and Johnson – 6.

NAYS: None – 0.

The motion carried 6-0.

Public Participation

Paula Hopkins asked the Board to approve applying for a grant for the Downtown Revitalization project and to work with the Committee on plans.

Loise Haines addressed the Board's Public Participation Policy.

Items from Mayor

- A. The Annual Senior Holiday Lunch is December 16 at 11:30 am at the Youth Center. Call 217-893-5703 by December 13 to RSVP.
- B. Breakfast with Santa is December 18 from 8-10:00 am at the Youth Center. Call 217-893-5703 by December 13 to RSVP.
- C. The Mayor reviewed the 2021 Rantoul Area Chamber of Commerce Awards.
- D. Leonard Wirges is celebrating his 100 birthday on December 9. The Mayor encouraged everyone to reach out to him and wish him a Happy Birthday.

Items from Trustees

Trustee Hall suggested having a strategic planning meeting for the Board. He would also like some training on the budget. Mayor Smith said he would like to include goal setting at any strategic planning meeting.

Trustee Johnson would like to have a Town Hall meeting the first part of the year. She also thanked the Comptroller for her work on the Audit Book.

Trustee Robertson asked again about the Village paying every residents' utility bill for the month of December. He would like to table everything on this agenda and discuss only this issue at the Study Session. The Attorney informed the Trustees that the Tax Levy was required to be passed and recorded by the end of December.

Trustee Weathersby thanked the Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas Parade. District 1 had a float in the parade. She also thanked the Public Works Department for fixing a light behind a business on Maplewood Dr.

Trustee Crider thanked the Administrator for reaching out and finding a solution to the fence on Perimeter Road. Public Works will remove the damaged fence and landscaping will be planted in the spring.

Trustee Wilkerson thanked Public Works for the Christmas Decorations. He announced that the Fellowship of Christian Athletics is hosting a Christmas Dinner on December 15 from 5:30 – 7:30 at the High School. The public is invited to attend.

Trustee Robertson asked if there had been any progress on the house on Naples that has the Gutter issue. The Attorney responded that the matter was in court.

Items from Clerk

- A. The Clerk addressed the issue of not answering the phone when it rang during Public Participation. This phone was used for Public Participation during zoom meetings held by the Board. All meetings are now being held in person and the remote call-in option is no longer available. To allow such, would be a violation of the Opens Meetings Act.
 - B. Minutes of the Study Session of November 2, 2021
 - C. Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 9, 2021
 - D. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of November 30, 2021
 - E. Review and approval of 2022 Board Meeting Schedule
- After minor corrections items B – E will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Comptroller

Hope Wheeler, CPA with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP presented the 2021 audit report.

Items from Human Resources

- A. The monthly Applicant Demographics Report was included in the packet.

Items from Police Department

No Items to Report.

Items from Fire Department

No items to report.

Items from Building Safety

No items to report.

Items from Community Development

- A. Community Development is requesting approval to apply to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a Downtown and Main Street grant. The application deadline is January 10. Any grant funds would be used for the downtown revitalization project. Awards are up to \$3 million each.

This item will go to the Board for approval.

Items from the Recreation

- A. The Department is requesting approval of the purchase and installation of new sand media for three water filters at the aquatic center. Spear Corporation provided the low quote of \$20,496.35 and their trained staff would do the installation. The lifespan of the new sand is approximately 15-20 years.

This item will go to the Board for approval

Items from Public Works

- A. Public works is requesting approval of an engineering agreement with Donohue & Assoc. in the amount of \$209,804.00 for the Water treatment Plant Control System Upgrade project. This is a budgeted item.

This item will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Administration

- A. The Rantoul Police Pension Board has requested that the pension be funded in the amount of \$496,375.00. The Employer Normal Cost to fund the pension is \$316,000.00. The Administrator and Comptroller are requesting the Board to set the amount of funds to be contributed. After a lengthy discuss no amount was determined.

The Mayor asked for a 10-minute break at 8:29 pm.

The meeting resumed at 8:41 pm.

- B. Approve Tax Levy for 2021 Tax Levy Year. The proposed levy would not increase the tax rate over last year's levy rate.
- C-G. Approve abatements for General Obligation Bonds. These bonds were issued with a special income stream identified as repayment.
- H. TIF District No. 1 also known as the Special Chanute Economic Development project area expired in 2019.

Items B-H will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Counsel

A. No items to Report

Meeting Adjourned

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

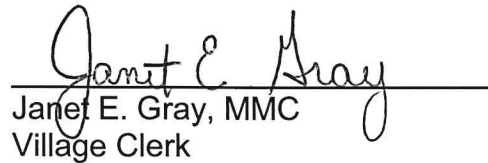
Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk

Approved



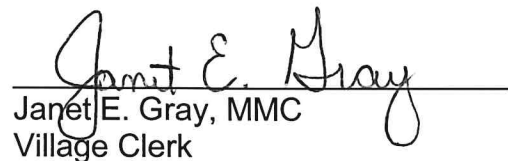
Charles Smith
Village President

ATTEST:



Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk

I, Janet E. Gray, Village Clerk of the Village of Rantoul, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Study Session of the Board of Trustees held December 7, 2021 as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.



Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk